The detection of Tsunami waves through Bottom Pressure Recorders and tide gauges are the reliable methods.

Grievance of NRIs

457. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are initiated for redressing grievances of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) on issues pertaining to violation of labour laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof including number of such cases dealt pertaining to NRIs of various gulf countries for the last three years, year-wise, country-wise; and

(c) if so, the details of recruitment agencies, if any, associated with above recruitment rackets and the steps taken to prevent such violations of labour laws, if any?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Complaints received from Indian workers on issues pertaining to violation of labour laws are taken up by the Indian Missions with the concerned foreign employer and if necessary, with the concerned Government. Most of the problems are resolved at this stage. In respect of the problems that remain, the worker concerned is advised to seek redressal through the Labour Courts where appropriate assistance is provided by the Mission to represent the worker's claim.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected from the Missions in gulf countries and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Opening of Pravasi Centres

458. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action is taken to open Pravasi Centres attached to Indian embassies;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the year in which the decision

was taken for opening the above centres, the number of centres opened, the number of grievances heard in the above centres for the last three years; year-wise and country-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the steps being taken to open Pravasi Centres?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) Allocation of work to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) was notified on 15th December, 2004. Entry No.(F) 8 of the Government of India (Allocation of Business) (278th Amendment) Rules 2004 reads. "Setting up and administering of Centres for Overseas Indians' Affairs in countries having major concentration of Overseas Indians in consultation and coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs". A proposal to establish Overseas Centres is under examination in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Finance. They are expected to be established at the earliest.

Humiliation of wives of NRI husbands

459. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a policy to protect the interest of wives who have been deserted or being humiliated by their NRI husbands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have invited any suggestions from the States in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) The Government is taking measures to educate parents as well as prospective brides and to create awareness on this issue. The measures include publishing a guidance booklet on marriages to overseas Indians. The other measures under consideration are establishing overseas Indian centres in select locations with high overseas Indian population, setting up a gender advisory group to advise on gender issues related to the diaspora